Report Documentation Page			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188		
Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headq VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding a does not display a currently valid OMB control number.	to average 1 hour per response, inclu- ction of information. Send comments uarters Services, Directorate for Infor	regarding this burden estimate or mation Operations and Reports	or any other aspect of the property of the pro	nis collection of information, Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington	
1. REPORT DATE JUN 1981	2. REPORT TYPE N/A		3. DATES COVE	ERED	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE			5a. CONTRACT NUMBER		
Modular Instructional Material In Pulsed Power Technology			5b. GRANT NUMBER		
			5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER		
6. AUTHOR(S)			5d. PROJECT NUMBER		
			5e. TASK NUME	BER	
			5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER		
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Electrical Engineering Department Texas Tech University Lubbock, Texas 79409			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER		
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)			10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)		
			11. SPONSOR/M NUMBER(S)	ONITOR'S REPORT	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release, distribut	ion unlimited				
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES See also ADM002371. 2013 IEEE Puls Abstracts of the 2013 IEEE Internation 16-21 June 2013. U.S. Government or	onal Conference on P	Plasma Science. H			
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MODULAR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL IN PULSED POWER TECHNOLOGY*

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Abstract

A Pulsed Power Lecture Series is being conducted by Texas Tech University for the U.S. Air Force. Modular instructional material for use in this lecture series is being developed. Each module is a selfconsistent discussion of some aspect of pulsed power technology. The contents range from the very basic (e.g. basic EM field theory) to advanced, modern topics, such as magnetic switching. The lectures are delivered every two weeks at the Air Force Institute of Technology and the Air Force Weapons Laboratory. The speakers then provide a written text of their lecture, which is edited and published in modular form by Texas Tech University. It is planned to reissue these modules in report or book form at a later date. A total of about 50 modules are planned. Some 30 lectures have been presented, to date, and about 12 modules have been issued. The structure of the program and the use of these modules for teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in pulsed power engineering is discussed.

Introduction

The recent rapid development of pulsed power technology and education has suffered from the lack of modern educational material, such as text books or even organized reference material. With support from the USAF, we have taken steps to remedy both these shortcomings. The organization of a computorized pulsed power reference source is described in a separate paper at this conference. In this paper we describe the development of modular instructional material in pulsed power technology.

Module Development

The Department of Electrical Engineering at Texas Tech University has, for the last year, organized a pulsed power lecture series for the USAF. The lectures are offered every other week at the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio and at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Each lecture lasts for approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours and is tutorial in nature. The lecture topics range from the fundamental to the advanced level (e.g. Basic EM Field Theory or Opening Switch Technology). All lectures so far have been unclassified but it is possible that some future lectures may contain classified material. The lecturers are chosen for their expertise in the lecture topic and come from universities, industry, and national laboratories, and in some special cases from foreign laboratories. Each lecturer prepares a written module covering his lecture topic. These modules are edited and published by Texas Tech University. It is intended that suitable collections of these modules will be republished in report or book form. Many of the modules are presently in use in the undergraduate and graduate pulsed power engineering courses at TTU. The main lecture topics and the lecturers to date are listed below. Beyond the current 35 scheduled topics, more than 15 additional topics are envisioned, as shown. Many of the lecture attendees, especially at the AFWL, are receiving Continuing Education Units (CEU) from TTU.

- "Introduction to Pulsed Power"
 A.H. Guenther Air Force Weapons Laboratory
- "Some Basic Concepts and Fundamentals of H.V. Generators"
 M. Kristiansen - Texas Tech University
- "Basic Electromagnetic Field Theory"
 M. Kristiansen Texas Tech University
- "Circuit and Transmission Line Theory"
 M.O. Hagler Texas Tech University
- 5. "Electric and Magnetic Properties of Materials" E.E. Kunhardt - Texas Tech University

^{*} AFOSR, AFWL, and AFWAL supported.

^{**} The only reasonable text material is "Pulse Generators", Edited by G.N. Glasoe and J.V. Lebacqz, McGraw Hill Book Co. and Dover Publications, Inc., which is over 30 years old! In addition, Dr. J. Sarjeant of LANL is preparing the collection of a set of notes for a handbook on Pulse Power Conditioning.

- "Diodes, Electron Beams and Bremsstrahling" R.K. Parker and C.A. Kapetanakos -Naval Research Laboratory
- "Prime Power"
 F.C. Brockhurst Air Force Institute of Technology
- 8. "Mechanical Energy Storage and Electromechanical Energy"W. Weldon The University of Texas at Austin
- "Principal Features in Large Capacitor Banks"
 E.L. Kemp Los Alamos National Laboratory
- 10. "Energy Storage Capacitors"
 W.J. Sarjeant Los Alamos National Laboratory
- 11. "Marx Generators"
 T.H. Martin Sandia National Laboratories
- 12. "Other Voltage Multiplier Scheme Variants" K. Prestwich - Sandia National Laboratories
- 13. "Inductive Energy Storage"
 P. Turchi R&D Associates
- 14. "Explosive Generators"
 W. Cowan Sandia National Laboratories
- 15. "Chemical Energy Storage"
 W.S. Bishop AF Wright Aeronautical Laboratories
- 16. "Pulsed MHD Generators"
 C. Bangerter STD Research Corporation
- 17. "Power Conditioning"
 G.K. Simcox Raytheon Company
- 18. "Transformers"
 J. O'Loughlin Air Force Weapons Laboratory
- 19. "Power Flow Through Interfaces"
 V.P. Vandevender Sandia National Laboratories
- 20. "Pulse Forming Networks"
 R. Butcher Los Alamos National Laboratory
- 21. "Gas Breakdown" E.E. Kunhardt - Texas Tech University
- 22. "Vacuum Switching"
 A.S. Gilmour State University of N.Y./Buffalo
- 23. "Solid State Switching"
 W.M. Portnoy Texas Tech University
- 24. "Thyratrons"
 D. Turnquist E G & G
- 25. "Magnetic Switches and Circuits" W.C. Nunnally - Los Alamos National Laboratory
- 26. "Ignitron Switches"
 D. Cummings Physics International Co.
- 27. "Mechanical Switches"
 M. Parsons Los Alamos National Laboratory
- 28. "Breakdown in Water"
 R. Miller Maxwell Laboratories, Inc.
- 29. "Current Interruption-Explosive and Fuse Switching"

 Vitkovitsky Naval Research Laboratory
- 30. "Solid, Liquid, and Gaseous Switches"
 J.C. Martin Aldermaston, Reading, England
- 31. "Gas Insulated Spark Gaps" M.O. Hagler and M. Kristiansen - Texas Tech Univ.
- 32. "Repetitive Switching"
 M. Buttram Sandia National Laboratories
- 33. "Electro-Magnetic Field Measurements"
 C. Baum Air Force Weapons Laboratory
- 34. "Opening Switches" K.H. Schoenbach and M. Kristiansen -Texas Tech University

35. "Current and Voltage Measurements"
R. Hebner - National Bureau of Standards

Some other planned lecture topics are:

- 1. Foreign Pulsed Power Technology
- 2. Modeling Techniques
- 3. Protective Circuits and Grounding Techniques
- 4. Control Systems
- 5. Modulator Design
- 6. Radar Systems
- 7. Laser Systems
- 8. Particle Accelerators
- 9. Particle Beam Fusion
- 10. Directed Beam Weapons
- 11. Nuclear Weapons Effects Simulation
- 12. Electronic Countermeasures
- 13. High Beta Magnetic Fusion
- 14. Coherent Radiation from Relativistic Beams
- 15. Industrial Applications of Pulsed Power Technology

SUMMARY

The series, so far, appear to have been very successful and the modules, although somewhat late in being issued due to author tardiness, are filling an educational need. Countries, such as Japan and West Germany (FRG), have shown considerable interest in the modules. Various methods for making the modules more generally available are being studied. The program is currently being supported until April, 1982. Beyond that time, it may be necessary to continue a limited lecture series to update some of the modules and to add certain new topics.